I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV336625491US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Docket No.: 368292000200

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: M. Walicka

In re Patent Application of:

Philip J. BARR et al.

Application No.: 10/025,514

Filed: December 18, 2001

For: MULTIFUNCTIONAL PROTEASE

INHIBITORS AND THEIR USE IN

TREATMENT OF DISEASE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 21, 2003 (Paper No. 20031010), for which a response was due on January 21, 2004. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a 3 month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to April 21, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

PA-835387